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IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Beerud D. Sheth and Srinivas Anumolu
SERIAL NO.: 09/648,408
FILING DATE: August 24, 2000
TITLE: Method and Apparatus for An Electronic Marketplace for Services
Having a Collaborative Workspace
EXAMINER: Cheung
GROUP ART UNIT: 3621
ATTY. DKT. NO.: 21673-04480

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DECLARATION OF BEERUD SHETH

I, Beerud Sheth, hereby declare the following:

1. I am an inventor of the invention described and claimed in United States Patent Application Serial Number 09/648,408, titled "Method and Apparatus for An Electronic Marketplace for Services Having a Collaborative Workspace," filed August 24, 2000, and claiming priority to U.S. Provisional Application Serial No. 60/150,611, filed August 24, 1999 ("the Application"). I am providing this declaration to establish that the invention described and claimed in the Application was reduced to practice prior to the filing date of United States Patent 6,567,784 to Bukow, issued May 20, 2003, filed June 3, 1999. The Examiner cited Bukow in the Official Action dated August 13, 2003.

2. I am currently employed as the Vice President, Online Solutions of Elance, Inc., of which I am a founder. Elance, Inc. has a place of business at 820A Kifer Road, Sunnyvale, CA 94086. Elance, Inc. is the assignee of the Application.

3. I was employed as a founder of Elance, Inc. during 1999. The invention as claimed in the Application was reduced to practice prior to June 3, 1999, the filing date of Bukow.

4. Attached hereto as Exhibit A are selected sections of an Investor Update dated prior to June 3, 1999. The Investor Update is redacted to remove its date of publication and further to remove data not relevant to conception or reduction to practice.

5. The Investor Update of Exhibit A states that Elance, Inc. had finished implementation of a RFP (Request for Proposal)/Auction system for customized services and that Elance, Inc. had further finished an optimizer-based technology for commodity services as of the date of the Investor Update.

6. The Investor Update of Exhibit A further states that "achievements" include a "sandbox" area that "is the private workspace created for every participant on Elance." (see item 4 of "Product Development" section).

7. Accordingly, the invention described and claimed by the Application was reduced to practice prior to June 3, 1999.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the

like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

2/10/04
Date

Beerud Sheth
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